

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

KENNETH FERENCE,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
GREENSBURG,

Defendant.

ELECTRONICALLY FILED

No. 2:22-cv-00797-NR-MPK

District Judge J. Nicholas Ranjan
Magistrate Judge Maureen P. Kelly

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

ORDER

AND NOW, this ____ day of _____, 2023, upon careful consideration of Defendant's motion to bifurcate or limit discovery and brief in support, as well as Plaintiff's response thereto, Defendant's motion is **GRANTED**.

Discovery is bifurcated into two phases. In phase one, the parties shall develop a record solely to adjudicate the Defendant's Title VII religious exemption, ministerial exception, and religious autonomy defenses in a summary judgment motion. Should Plaintiff's suit survive summary judgment, phase two of discovery shall begin. In phase two, the parties shall develop a record as to whether Defendant is liable to Plaintiff and Plaintiff's purported damages.

The Honorable Maureen P. Kelly
Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court